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ANTHONY THORN

MAY 2011

By AMANDA CHIDDENTON

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Biographical Sketch:

Anthony Thorn is the pseudonym of Arthur Goldman, the son of Leon and Dorothy Goldman, born in Regina in 1927. He is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan (BA, 1947) and pursued graduate studies in English literature at the University of Chicago.

Thorn began to paint in 1948. His first studies in painting were in Regina with Kenneth Lochhead followed by studies in figure drawing at the Chicago Art Institute, studies in oil painting techniques with Frederic Taubes at the Banff Centre, studies in stained glass design at the Centre d'Art Sacré, Paris, and drawing at the Academie de la Grande Chaumière, Paris. In 1955 Thorn was apprentice to the muralist David Alfaro Siquéiros in Mexico and studied in acrylic technique with Jose Gutierrez. In later years he studied watercolor and sumi painting with Mataichiro Isoda in Kyoto, Japan, and metal-smithing in Corfu, Greece.

His work has been exhibited with galleries across Canada but also in France, Mexico, the Canary Islands and the United States. About 40 of his works are in corporate and public collections in Canada. Notably in the collections of the Saskatchewan Arts Board and the MacKenzie Art Gallery in Regina, the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria and the Greater Victoria Public Library; they consist of paintings and carved works in gold leaf, ivory and other precious materials. Eight of his works in public collections have been honored with the designation "of outstanding significance and national importance" by the Canadian Cultural Review Board.

As an educator, along with various teaching in Toronto, Thunder Bay and Victoria art classes, his main academic teaching was as a Lecturer in Fine Arts at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay (1977 to 1979) and an Instructor in painting for the Department of Extension of the University of Victoria (1981 to 1984). He wrote as an art reviewer and critic for the publication *Toronto Citizen* (1971 to 1972)

Anthony Thorn and his wife Jacqueline live in Victoria, British Columbia.

Scope and Content: The date range is 1977 to 2011. There are 13 centimeters of material including: 73 contact sheets and 134 photographs. This collection is divided into the following main series: Photo Album (1977 – 1982), Correspondence with Lyndon Grove (2000 – 2011) and Lyndon Grove Articles (n.d).

Custodial History: This collection was sent to Archives and Special Collections by the donor.

Legal Agreement: The donor agreement was signed on May 11, 2011.

Future Accruals: Future accruals are expected.

Access Restrictions: No access restrictions exist in this collection.

Related Accessions: 2003-4, 2003-6, 2007-33, 2009-31 and 2009-50.

Note on Arrangement: The photographs were sleeved and numbered, and preservation photocopies were made of the photo album.

Box 1

1. Annotated, corrected version of finding aid and color copies used to identify works
2. Personal Photo Album of Anthony Thorn's Collection 1977 – 1982
 - A. Pictures 1 – 49
 1. Unidentified
 2. Munding Series; Toronto period; painting
 3. Reclining Nude of Robin; 1977
 4. Unidentified
 5. Unidentified
 6. Photo of our cat Beatrice
 7. Unidentified
 8. Unidentified
 9. Unidentified
 10. Unidentified
 11. Unidentified
 12. Unidentified
 13. Unidentified
 14. Commissioned Portrait of Mrs. A; Toronto Period; circa 1970
 15. Unidentified
 16. Unidentified
 17. Unidentified
 18. Unidentified
 19. Unidentified
 20. Unidentified
 - 21(a). Unidentified
 - 21(b). Unidentified
 22. Unidentified
 23. Munding Series; Toronto Period; painting
 24. Unidentified
 25. Unidentified
 26. Unidentified
 27. Unidentified
 28. Unidentified
 29. Unidentified
 30. Unidentified
 31. Unidentified
 32. Girl with a Mirror; oil on Canvas; Toronto Period; circa 1978
 33. Unidentified
 34. Unidentified
 35. Unidentified
 36. Head of Ann Barlow
 37. "Gold Piece"; 1970s or 1980s
 39. Unidentified
 40. "Study for Ezekiel's Wheel"; silver on masonite
 41. Unidentified
 42. Unidentified
 43. Unidentified
 44. Unidentified

- 45. Unidentified
- 46. "Anniversary Gift"; June 1973
- 47. Unidentified
- 48. ["Portrait of Robin"] Toronto period
- 49. Unidentified

B. Perseveration photocopy of personal photo album in its original state. Each photo is number according to placement.

3. Personal Photo Album of Anthony Thorn's Collection 1977 – 1982

Pictures 50-99

- 50. Unidentified
- 51. "Object in Space"; Toronto Period; 1970; Enamel on Oil Canvas; [first or second variant]
- 52. Unidentified
- 53. Unidentified
- 54. "Object in Space"; Toronto Period; 1970; Enamel on oil canvas; [first or second variant]
- 55. Unidentified
- 56. Unidentified
- 57. Photo Thorn's private student; Toronto period
- 58. Unidentified
- 59. Unidentified
- 60. Unidentified
- 61. "Glyphs with a Doorway"; oil on canvas
- 62. Unidentified
- 63. Unidentified
- 64. "Silver Islet Store"; Thunder Bay period; circa 1978; Thunder Bay
- 65. "Portrait of Debbie" Thunder Bay Period; circa 1978
- 66. "Doorway to Babylon in Progress"; carved on masonite, acrylic, gold leaf
- 67. "Mayan with Glyphs"; Thunder Bay Period; circa 1978; painting
- 68. Unidentified
- 69. Unidentified
- 70. Photo of Thorn's collection of antique pipes and netsuke and Japanese ivory dagger
- 71. "Cherry Blossoms"; 1980; painting of gold leaf
- 72. Unidentified
- 73(a). Photo of Thorn's cat Beatrice
- 73(b). "Nicole"; 1980; oil painting
- 74. "Ostensorium"; 1980; painting, perhaps with gold leaf
- 75. Unidentified
- 76. Photos demonstrating painting in black enamel at Lakehead University; Thunder Bay
- 77. Photos demonstrating painting in black enamel at Lakehead University; Thunder Bay
- 78. Photos demonstrating gilding at Lakehead University; Thunder Bay
- 79. Unidentified
- 80. "Glyphs with Doorway" 1979
- 81. Unidentified
- 82. Unidentified

83. Unidentified
84. "Tenochtitlan" 1978; Gold leaf on plywood gesso, ect.
85. "Doorway to Babylon" 1980
86. "Red Ovid Figures" 1980
87. Unidentified
88. "Burnished Offering"; 1976; carved gesso masonite
89. Unidentified
90. Unidentified
91. Unidentified
92. "The Sun Stone"; Thunder Bay; 1976; enamel and oil on linen
93. Unidentified
94. Unidentified
95. Unidentified
96. Unidentified
97. Unidentified
98. Detail Photos: "Doorway to Babylon"; carved on masonite, assembly gold leaf
99. Unidentified

4. Personal Photo Album of Anthony Thorn's Collection 1977 – 1982

Pictures 100-132

100. "Six Views of a Japanese Doll"; 1980; oil painting
101. "Quite early Gilded Panel"
102. Unidentified
103. "Sill Life/Round Table"; Lakehead University; 1979; oil on canvas
104. Unidentified
105. "Girl in Turkish Costume"; Lakehead University; 1978; oil
106. "Imagined Flowers" 1979
107. Unidentified
108. Unidentified
109. Unidentified
110. Unidentified
111. "Magic Kettle"; 1981; tiny gesso carving with gold leaf
112. ["Figure with Parasol"]; 1980; painting on gold leaf ground
113. Unidentified
114. "Doorway to Babylon" 1980 (revised – see picture)
115. "Doorway to Babylon" 1980 (revised – see picture)
116. Unidentified
117. Unidentified
118. Unidentified
119. Unidentified
120. Unidentified
121. "Interior with Begonia"; 1980; oil painting on gold leaf ground
122. "Victorian Spring"; Victoria period; 1981; oil painting
123. Unidentified
124. "Cherry Blossoms"; Victoria period; 1981; oil on linen
125. "Golden Door/Carnelian Door"; right panel gilded, left panel painted
126. "Angel Wing Begonia"; Victoria period; 1983; oil on linen
127. "Interior with Bird"; 1982; oil painting
128. "Heavy Branch with Blossoms"; Victoria period; 1982; triptych oil on linen

- 129. "Guardians of Eden"; Victoria period; 1981; carved on masonite
- 130. "Golden Rune Stone" 1981; carved gesso on masonite, fine gold
- 131. "House of Egypt"; 1981; carved gesso on masonite, fine gold leaf
- 132. Unidentified

- 5. Newspaper clippings from Anthony Thorn's personal photo album 1977-1982
- 6. Anthony Thorn correspondence with (writer) Lyndon Grove 2000-2009
- 7. Anthony Thorn correspondence with (writer) Lyndon Grove 2010-2011
- 8. Lyndon Grove – miscellaneous articles